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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/552,401	12/05/2006	Guilaine Argoud-Puy	4-33626A	9303
75074	7590	03/23/2009	EXAMINER	
NOVARTIS INSTITUTES FOR BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH, INC.			COOK, LISA V	
220 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139			1641	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/552,401	Applicant(s) ARGOUD-PUY ET AL.
	Examiner LISA V. COOK	Art Unit 1641

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2006.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-20 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions, which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. To have a general inventive concept under PCT rule 13.1, the inventions need to be linked by a special technical feature. The special technical feature that appears to link claims 1-20 are isolated polypeptides comprising SEQ ID NO:1-4 (cardiovascular disorder plasma polypeptides-CPPs). However, Yanagita et al. (US Patent #6,852,692) teaches the claimed sequences. See entire patent. With respect to methods employing these types of polypeptides in cardiovascular methods Falb (WO 97/30065) discloses said methods. Please see entire reference. Therefore the technical feature recited in claims 1-20 is not a contribution over the prior art. Accordingly the groups set forth below are not so linked as to form a single general concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

2. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

- A. Group I, claim(s) 1-7, are drawn to a methods screening for, predicting, and diagnosing cardiovascular disease with SEQ ID NO:2. (A first method/process that utilizes a special technical feature).

- B. Group **II**, claim(s) 8, is directed to an isolated polypeptide comprising SEQ ID NO:1-4 (A first product or special technical feature).
- C. Group **III**, claim(s) 9-12 and 14, are directed to CCPA antibodies and their utility. (Another product and method comprising a special technical feature).
- D. Group **IV**, claim(s) 13, is drawn to the use of SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO:2 in the preparation of a medicament, prophylaxis, drug eluting stent, or treatment of cardiovascular disorders. (A third method/process that utilizes the special technical features).
- E. Group **V**, claim(s) 15, is directed to a method of identifying modulators of CCPs (SEQ ID NO:1-4) by contacting said CCPs with a test compound. (A fourth method employing the special technical feature).
- F. Group **VI**, claim 16-20, are directed to methods identifying CPPs modulators of SEQ ID NO:2 via the administration of a test compound or candidate agent to a test subject. (A fifth method/process comprising the special technical feature).

3. The inventions listed as Groups A through F do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

Under PCT rules Applicant is entitled to an examination of one of the combination groupings: (1) a product, a method of using said product and a method of producing said product. The instant claims are directed to multiple methods and products.

Accordingly, Applicant must select one for further prosecution.

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group A through F is not totally inclusive, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103(a) of the other invention.

6. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(l).

7. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO fax center located in Crystal Mall 1. The faxing of such papers must conform to the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989). The Group 1641 Fax number is (571) 273-8300, which is able to receive transmissions 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lisa V. Cook whose telephone number is (571) 272-0816. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Friday from 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Shibuya, can be reached on (571) 272-0806.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group TC 1600 whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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3/12/09

/Lisa Cook/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1641